

RUSSELL AND BANCROFT.

Family Propriety and the Infant Terrible.

The Mew of the British Lion—“Why Should We not be Friends?”

Spicy Correspondence in Relation to Mr. Bancroft's Memorial Address in the House of Representatives.

Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc.

LORD RUSSELL TO MR. ADAMS.

CHESHAM PLACE, February 23, 1866.—Dear Mr. Adams—I have just received from you a copy of your day extracts from a speech of Mr. Bancroft delivered in the House of Representatives on the 12th instant. In this speech Mr. Bancroft is represented to have said, referring to the breaking out of the civil war in America, that the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs made a mistake to send word through the palaces of Europe that the great republic was in its agony; that the republic was no more; that a headstone was all that remained due by the law of nations to the late Union.

As words pronounced on such an occasion, and by so eminent a man as Mr. Bancroft, may have an effect far beyond the injury which my personal character might suffer, I must request you to convey to Mr. Bancroft the denial of the truth of his allegation, and to refer him to facts of a totally opposite character.

Soon after the news of the resistance in arms of the Southern States to the Government of the United States in this country, a member of the House of Commons stated in his place that the bubble of republicanism had burst. I replied in the same debate that the bubble of republicanism had not burst, and that if the course of slavery still hung about the United States, it was England who had made them the gift of the poisoned garment which was now their torment. In fact, I have never had any doubt that whether the United States consented to separation or pursued the war to extremity, the great Western republic would remain, happily for the world, a powerful and independent republic.

The authors of the Declaration of Independence, in declaring for separation from Great Britain, after enumerating their complaints of her conduct, go on to say:—“We must therefore acquiesce in the necessity which places us upon separation, and hold them as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war, in peace friends.”

That we should be enemies in war is easily understood, but when we are at peace why should we not be friends, as the great men of the American revolution intended? It is in a moment of separation and of war looked forward to a period of peace and of friendship, why should we, more than three-quarters of a century after these events, keep up sentiments of irritation and hostility founded on a mistaken apprehension of facts, and tending to lay the foundation of permanent alienation, suspicion, and ill-will?

As Mr. Bancroft's speech is likely to have very extensive publicity, I reserve to myself the power of making public this letter at such time as I shall judge fit.

I remain, my dear Mr. Adams, your faithful servant.

RUSSELL.

P. S. I subjoin an extract of my speech on the 30th of May, 1861, as reported in Hansard's Debates.

MR. BANCROFT TO MR. ADAMS IN REPLY.

NEW YORK, March 23, 1866.

MY DEAR MR. ADAMS.—I have received from you, by Lord Russell's desire, a copy of his letter to you of 28th February last, in which he denies the truth of certain allegations in my address to Congress on the 13th of the same month. The passage which he cites contains these three allegations:—That as British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs he viewed this republic as “the late Union”; that he sent this view of our country through the palaces of Europe; and that he made haste to do so. When Lord Russell calls to mind the authority for these statements he must acknowledge them to be perfectly just and true.

On the 6th day of May, 1861, Lord John Russell, then Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, wrote a despatch to Lord Lyons, in which he describes the condition of America as “the disruption of a confederacy,” and he further used these words:—“Civil war has broken out between the several States of the late Union. The Government of the Southern portion has constituted itself. Her Majesty's Government do not wish you to make any mystery of that view.” Here is irrefragable proof of my first allegation.

On the day on which the Minister of the Queen then wrote he addressed a despatch to Lord Cowley, her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, designating our republic as “the States which lately composed the American Union,” “the late United States,” “the late Union,” and he enclosed in that despatch, for Lord Cowley's instruction, a copy of the above-cited letter to Lord Lyons. Having thus ostentatiously communicated his view of our country as “the late Union,” he asked, in return, “to be made acquainted with the views of the Imperial Government.” My second allegation is, therefore, true, in letter and in spirit.

That Lord John Russell, as Secretary of State, was in haste to do this, appears from his not having awaited the appointment of the American Minister of Mr. Lincoln's appointment, and from those very letters of the 6th of May, 1861, to Lord Cowley and to Lord Lyons; for in those letters he confesses that he had not, as yet, received from Lord Lyons any report of the state of affairs and of the prospects of the several States; but that on coming to the decision which was so momentous and unprecedented he acted on the reports of “some consuls” and “of the public prints.”

It is true that twenty-four days after Lord John Russell had officially described our country as “the disruption of a confederacy,” “the late United States,” “the late Union,” he received a member of the House of Commons for openly exulting that the great republican bubble in America had burst, and owned “that the Republic had been for many years a great and free State.” But he uttered no expectation or hope of the restoration of our Union, and rather intimated that the Americans were “about to destroy each other's happiness and freedom.” Lord John, on that occasion, rightly attributed the Rebellion to the “accursed institution of slavery,” and confessed that England was the giver of “the poisoned garment,” that the former Governments of Great Britain were “themselves to blame for the origin of the evil.” But this confession must be interpreted by the light of his avowals on the 6th of May, 1861, and by Lord Russell's later assertion, that the efforts of our country were but a contest for “empire.”

In speaking to the American Congress of the life and character of Abraham Lincoln it was my unavoidable duty to refer to the conduct of the British Government towards our country during his administration, for nothing so wounded his feelings, or exercised his judgment, or tried his fortitude.

I was asked to address the two Houses of our Congress, and those only. When I learned that the British Minister at Washington was likely to be one of my hearers, I requested Mr. Seward to advise him not to be present, and through another friend, I sent him a similar message, which he received and perfectly understood.

I need not recall words of ninety years ago to be extended to the present. The people and the United Kingdom should be friends. I have a right to say this; for when in the public service, I proved it by public acts; and, as a private citizen, I have never wished our Government to demand of a foreign power anything out of justice.

Pray send Lord Russell a copy of this letter, which is at liberty to publish; and I consider myself equally at liberty to publish his letter, to which this is a reply.

I am ever, my dear Mr. Adams, very truly yours, GEORGE BANCROFT.

LORD J. RUSSELL'S LETTER TO EARL COWLEY, ALLUDED TO BY MR. BANCROFT.

FOREIGN OFFICE, May 6, 1861.—My Lord:—Although her Majesty's Government have received no despatches from Lord Lyons by the route which has just arrived, the communication between Washington and New York being interrupted, yet the accounts which have reached them from some of her Majesty's Consuls, coupled with what has appeared in the public prints, are sufficient to show that a civil war has broken out among the States which have composed the late Union.

Other nations have, therefore, to consider the light in which, with reference to that war, they are to regard the people of the Southern States who have united themselves; and it appears to her Majesty's Government that, looking at all the circumstances of the case, they cannot hesitate to admit that such considerations should be considered as belligerent, and, as such, invested with all the rights and prerogatives of a belligerent. I have stated this to the Secretary of State, and I enclose a copy for your Excellency's information.

In making known to M. Thouvenel the opinion of her Majesty's Government on this point, your Excellency will be enabled to inform the French Government of the bearing which this unfortunate contest threatens to have on the rights and interests of neutral nations.

On the one hand, President Lincoln, in behalf of the Northern portion of the late United States, has issued a proclamation declaratory of an intention to adopt a vigorous blockade; on the other hand, President Davis, on behalf of the Southern portion of the late Union, has issued a proclamation declaratory of an intention to grant letters of marque and reprisal to be employed against the commerce of the North.

It has state of things it appears to her Majesty's Government to be well deserving of the immediate consideration of all maritime powers, but more especially of France and England, whether they should not adopt a course of neutrality, or should not act upon the principles laid down in the second and third articles of the Declaration of Paris of 1856, which relate to the security of neutral property on the high seas.

The United States, as an entire Government, have not acceded to that declaration; but in practice they have, in the case of the Southern States, adopted the second article, although admitting that without some such convention the rule was not one of universal application.

In this article, in recent treaties concluded by the United States with South American republics, the principle adopted has been in accordance with that laid down in the Declaration of Paris.

Your Excellency will remember that when it was proposed to the Government of the United States, in 1860, to adopt the whole of the Declaration of Paris, they, in the first instance, agreed to the second, third, and fourth proposals, but made a condition that they should not be bound to accede to extending the declaration to so extensive a private property whatever from capture on the high seas; but before any final decision was taken they withdrew the proposal altogether.

It seems to her Majesty's Government to be desirable to ascertain whether the Southern States are now to be treated as belligerents, or whether they should be treated as rebels, and whether the principles should be admitted by both, as they have been admitted by the powers who made or acceded to the Declaration of Paris, henceforth to form part of the general law of nations.

Her Majesty's Government would be glad to be made acquainted with the views of the Imperial Government on this matter with as little delay as possible. I am, &c., J. RUSSELL.

LORD J. RUSSELL TO LORD LYONS.

FOREIGN OFFICE, May 6, 1861.—My Lord:—Her Majesty's Government are disappointed in not having received from you by the mail which has just arrived any report of the state of affairs, and of the prospect of the several parties with reference to the issue of the struggle which appears unfortunately to have broken out in America. It is to be regretted that communication between Washington and New York sufficiently explains the non-arrival of your despatches.

The point, however, which her Majesty's consuls at different ports were enabled to forward by the packet coincides in showing that, whatever may be the result of the war, it is not desirable to descend to the aid of either side as the civil war which has broken out between the several States of the late Union, for the present, at least, those States have separated into distinct confederacies, and, as such, are carrying on war against each other.

The question for neutral nations to consider is, whether certain States, at war, and whether it should be regarded as a war carried on by two parties severally in a position to wage war, and to claim the rights and to perform the obligations attaching to belligerents.

Her Majesty's Government consider that the question can only be answered in the affirmative. If the Government of the Northern portion of the late Union possess the attributes of a Government, the Government of the Southern portion has, nevertheless, duly constituted itself, and has constituted itself, in a regular form, the administration of the civil government of the States of which it is composed.

Her Majesty's Government, therefore, without assuming to pronounce upon the question on which the respective parties are at issue, can do no less than accept the facts presented to them. They deeply deplore the disruption of a confederacy which they have at all times considered as one of the most friendly relations; they view with the greatest apprehension and concern the misery and devastation which are the inevitable result of the war; but they feel that they cannot question the rights of the Southern States to claim to be recognized as a belligerent, and to exercise with all the rights and prerogatives of a belligerent.

I think it right to give your Lordship this timely notice of the course which her Majesty's Government of the present state of affairs in North America, and her Majesty's Government do not wish to make any mystery of that view.

I shall send your Lordship, by an early opportunity, such further information on these matters as may be required for your guidance. At present I have only to add, in an expression of regret that you may experience at the present disastrous state of affairs will too strongly depict the feelings with which her Majesty's Government contemplate all the evils which cannot fail to result from it. I am, &c., J. RUSSELL.

EXTRACT FROM LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S SPEECH IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, MAY 30, 1861.

My honorable friend, the member for the West of England, has just said, in relation to one subject to a tone which I was very sorry to hear used by any one. My honorable friend said that the great republican bubble in America had burst. Now, Sir, I am proud to confess—I may be subject to correction—but for my part, when I find that a dark and fanatical despotism has been abetted in that people, and that they are in honor; and that people are in honor; and that the great fountain of liberty is in jeopardy, I must say the joy which I felt at the overthrow of some of the despots of Italy is counterbalanced by the pain which I experience at the view which has lately taken place in America. I admit that I have thought, and I still think, that in this country we enjoy more real freedom than the United States have ever done. I admit, also, that the great founders of that republic, wise and able men as they were, had not the materials at hand by which they could improve, as we are able to do in this country,

to curb and correction of reason in order to restrain it to a passionate outburst of the popular will. Yet we cannot be blind to the fact that the republic has been for many years a great and free State, exhibiting to the world the example of a people in the enjoyment of wealth, happiness, and freedom, and enjoying bright prospects of the progress and improvement of mankind. When I reflect that the tyrannies which are cast by the States of the North upon the Southern States, and the resistance which they have called forth, have arisen from that accursed institution of slavery, I cannot but recollect also that with our great and glorious institutions, we have through the course, and that ours were the hands from which they received that fatal gift of the poisoned garment which was now their torment, and that we should reproach them with an evil for the origin of which we are ourselves to blame. These are the feelings with which I heard the remarks of my honorable friend the other night, and I must say that I believe the sentiments which he expressed form an exception to the general impression in England. Indeed, I think nothing could more honor our country than the sympathy, pain and grief which have been occasioned by the prospect of that great and free people being sent to rush into arms to destroy each other's happiness and freedom.

THIRD EDITION. HIGHLY IMPORTANT!

PROBST, THE FIEND, MAKES A FULL CONFESSION.

He Killed the Eight Members of the Dearing Family Himself.

HE HAD NO ACCOMPLICE.

The Motive of the Bloody Deeds

THE REASONS FOR HIS FORMER RETICENCE AND PREVARICATION.

Fear of Mob Violence.

HE FEELS THE WEIGHT OF HIS CRIME.

Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

The Visit of Mrs. Jeff. Davis to her Husband—She is Expected to Remain at the Fortress—Raising a Sunk British Brig, &c.

FORTRESS MONROE, May 5.—It is now confidently stated that the visit of Mrs. Jefferson Davis to this place promises to be of long duration. During yesterday Major-General Miles, acting under instructions from Washington, D. C., directed Lieutenant McElrath, the Post Quartermaster, to turn over one of the casemates of the Fortress. It is understood that Mrs. Davis applied for a room in Carroll Hall, where her husband is confined, but was refused by General Miles.

The conditions of the visit of Mrs. Davis, which were made known shortly after she arrived here, permit her to have free intercourse with her husband during all hours of the day, and strictly enjoin upon her to use no illegal measures in attempting either his rescue or release.

The British brig *Victoria*, which was wrecked near Cape Henry several months since, has been raised by the Messrs. Baker, of Norfolk, and towed to that city, where she will undergo the requisite repairs.

The report of the ball given by the officers of the United States gunboat *Comet*, laying in this harbor, proves to be incorrect. It was a surprise visit by the officers of the *Fortress*, and the utmost cordiality was extended to them.

The schooner *J. J. Spencer*, from Camden, N. J., bound to Cuba, with an assorted cargo, arrived here yesterday, and was quarantined. A case of smallpox had made its appearance on board.

The ship *Thomas*, from City Point, went to sea today.

The schooner *John R. Franklin*, with a cargo of wood, has sailed for New York.

Mrs. Davis the Guest of Dr. Cooper—The Conditions of her Visit to Mr. Davis—She Proposes to Remain with her Husband until he is Released by Government or Death—Her Opinions on the Subject of Mr. Davis's Parole, &c.

FORTRESS MONROE, May 4, 1866.—Mrs. Jeff. Davis has taken up her quarters in the fort. She remained there last night, having previously sent for her baggage, and for the services of a doctor, Post Surgeon, and, by virtue of such position, the medical attendant of Mr. Davis, has given her apartments in the house occupied by himself and family.

As stated in my letter of yesterday, Mrs. Davis obtained permission to visit her husband direct from a resident Johnson. But the permission was given under certain restrictions, though with a liberty of indulgence that greatly surprises very many here. The restrictions are that she is not to use any influence or contribute in any way to the release of Mr. Davis, or his release otherwise, than through the proper Government channels. The indulgence granted her admits her to unconstrained interviews with her husband during the day, but she is not to reveal and sunset. It is not enjoined that an officer shall be in the room with them, neither is it forbidden. In the absence of such injunction, General Miles today allowed her to visit her husband unattended by an officer. A sentinel, however, walks back and forth continually in front of the barred windows of the fort, and, at least, no limit is placed upon the length of her visit.

THE TIME MRS. DAVIS PROPOSES TO REMAIN. In answer to a question how long she proposed to make her visit, Mrs. Davis said, emphatically, “I intend to remain until Mr. Davis is ordered away for trial, or he is released from prison, or dies. And she is a woman of that decision and spirit that she will do what she says, unless some intermediate interference occurs. She is, therefore, decidedly no such fears, and it is believed she knows too well the nature of her sojourn to allow herself to entertain any such apprehension.

MR. DAVIS'S FUTURE AS LOOKED AT BY MRS. DAVIS. It is natural for women to be enthusiastic, particularly when their strongest affections and most cherished hopes are interested. Mrs. Davis is probably not an exception. It is certain that she is enthusiastically hopeful regarding the future of Mr. Davis. She expresses the sure belief that he will very soon be released on his parole. It is possible that the wish in her case is father to the thought, but she talks with that freedom and assurance on the topic carrying conviction of a stronger basis for the belief she expresses than idle surmises founded on delusive hope.

There might be persons she says would like to rescue Mr. Davis from prison, but she scorns the idea of his accepting any such release. He will not go away from here, she declares, unless in a manner commensurate with his services to his country, and she claims for him a punctilio of honor partaking of the chivalry of the old knights of the medieval ages. On the subject of parole she insists with equal emphasis, that he would sacrifice his life before violating his parole.—N. Y. Herald.

FROM SAVANNAH.

NEW YORK, May 7.—The steamers *Virgo* and *Perrill* have arrived, with Savannah cargo of May 3.

The Savannah *Daily News* and *Herald* say the trial of James Duncan, for alleged cruelty to Federal prisoners at Andersonville, has been brought to a close, and the Commission has determined upon the findings and sentence, but there will not be made public until passed upon by the Department commander.

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At an election held on the 2d inst. for County Court Judge and Solicitor, 1536 votes were cast, electing Levi S. Russell Judge, and Major John O. Ferrill Solicitor. The election was orderly, but was warmly contested. The usual firemen's celebration took place on the 1st of May.

and which are patent to the minds of the whole community.

Probst states that he would have confessed to all the murders before, but he feared if he did so he would be torn to pieces by the mob. During the trial, and even at the time of his capture, he states that he had a disposition to make a confession, but the yells of the crowd when he first saw them frightened him into the belief that if they knew the extent of his crime all the police in Philadelphia could not save him from their clutches.

Probst also states that he did not like to go to the court-room during the trial, as the yells of the crowd when he made his appearance on the street made a deep and terrible impression on him, and he much preferred the solitude of his cell.

During the afternoon he will be visited by some of the authorities, and it is expected that a minute confession in detail will be extracted from him.

He knows that he will never again be brought face to face with any number of his fellow-creatures, until the day of his execution, and therefore will give to the authorities all the information they desire in relation to the murder.

Although no one had doubted, for a long time, that he was solitary and alone in his devilish work, it is a source of infinite satisfaction to know, from his own lips, that he had no accomplice.

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Special Despatches to The Evening Telegraph.

WASHINGTON, May 7.

The Pay Department of the Navy.

The President has approved the bill providing that the active list of the pay corps of the navy shall consist of 80 paymasters, 40 passed assistant paymasters, and 30 assistant paymasters. Paymasters shall be regularly promoted and commissioned from passed assistant paymasters and passed assistant paymasters from assistant paymasters, and all passed assistant paymasters authorized by this act to be appointed who have not heretofore been appointed and commissioned as assistant paymasters, and all assistant paymasters hereby authorized to be appointed shall be selected from those who have served as acting assistant paymasters for the term of one year, and who were eligible to appointment in the grade of assistant paymasters, when they were appointed acting assistant paymasters as aforesaid; subject, however, to such examinations as are required by law, and such as may be established by the Secretary of the Navy. Passed assistant paymasters shall give bonds for the faithful performance of their duties in the sum of \$15,000, and that their annual pay shall be, at sea, \$1,500; on other duty, 1,400; on leave or waiting orders, \$1,200.

The Thanks of Congress.

The President has approved the joint resolution declaring that it is his duty, and the privilege of Congress, to express the gratitude of the nation to the officers, soldiers, and seamen of the United States by whose valor and endurance on land and sea, the Rebellion has been crushed, and its power and pride humbled; by whose fidelity to the cause of freedom the Government of the people has been preserved and maintained, and by whose orderly return from the fire and blood of civil war to the peaceful pursuits of private life, the exalting and ennobling influence of free institutions upon a nation has been so significantly manifested to the world.

A Reconstructed Newspaper.

The *Vicksburg Herald*, which has a special contract with the State Department for printing the United States laws passed during the last five years, and for which they receive several thousand dollars, informs its readers in an editorial that the laws of this Congress must be held to be of no binding force. The same paper contains a notice of Governor Humphreys, that all Confederate and State soldiers who are disabled, destitute, or need relief, will be cared for by forwarding their names to him. Colored Union troops get such treatment as was recently exhibited at Memphis, where their schools and churches were burned, and over forty murdered.

A Statement Corrected.

Several correspondents have wrongly attributed, through the journals with which they are connected, criminality and blame to Colonel E. E. Paulding, of the Paymaster-General's Bureau, as having been instrumental in placing the large amount (variously stated at from \$500,000 to \$700,000) in the Merchants' National Bank of Washington, D. C., which so recently collapsed. The facts are, as we learn from a source entirely reliable, that the Treasurer of the United States has ordered all paymasters where drafts are drawn on a National Bank or Repository to allow the balance over the amount actually expended by payments to be retained, and not disturbed. Although this custom is believed to be entirely contrary to law, yet it has been the universal rule since the establishment of the National Banks.

FROM BALTIMORE TO-DAY.

General Grant in Baltimore Yesterday.

BALTIMORE, May 7.—General Grant, accompanied by Representative Washburn, arrived here on Saturday evening, in a buggy, and stopped at the Eutaw House, where they had many calls. Yesterday afternoon they returned by the same conveyance to Washington.

The New York Cholera Report.

NEW YORK, May 7.—The report from the hospital ship at quarantine, to-day, states that a new case of cholera occurred on Saturday, and five new cases yesterday from the steamship *Virginia*. There are now 112 cases in the hospital.

Ship News.

NEW YORK, May 7.—Arrived, steamship *New York*, Southampton, April 25, with 700 passengers. U. S. gunboat *Vivian*, Pensacola.

GNATS.—Accounts from Louisiana report the killing of large numbers of horses and mules in the northern part of the State by buffalo gnats. One plantation lost thirty-eight mules and horses in one night, another twenty-five, and others from fifteen to twenty each. The buffalo gnat is quite a small insect, prevalent generally in river and creek bottoms at some seasons of the year. Great numbers of them will fill about and settle on a horse, until they so fill his nostrils and throat as to produce strangulation. Riders have often lost their horses in this way while going through a locality infested by them.

EUROPE.

STEAMER “CHINA” AT HALIFAX.

TWO DAYS' LATER NEWS.

MISSING STEAMSHIPS HEARD FROM.

THE “CITY OF WASHINGTON” DISABLED AT SEA.

The “Propontis,” from Philadelphia, Arrives at Liverpool with the Passengers of Both the Steamers on Board.

Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc.

HALIFAX, May 7.—The steamship *China* has arrived from Liverpool, with dates via Queenstown, on the 29th ult. Her dates are two days later than already received.